

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These Remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2005 ("Office Action"). Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 are amended. Support for the amended and newly claimed subject matter may be found, for instance, in the claims as originally filed. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of the pending claims for the following reasons.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Bos for indicating that claims 1-13 contain allowable subject matter. Office Action, page 5. Applicant has adopted the suggestions of the Office Action where applicable in order to correct minor informalities and place this application in condition for allowance. Other aspects of the claims have been amended in conformance with United States practice. If it is determined that any issues remain after consideration of this response, Examiner Bos is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at 202-419-2021 to resolve any such issues by way of a telephonic interview.

Restriction Requirement

Applicant hereby acknowledges the provisional election made on January 27, 2004 with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-13. Claims 14-21 have been canceled without prejudice.

Objection to the Disclosure

The Office Action objects to page 6, line 28 of the specification because "pa" should be "Pa." Each instance of "pa" on page 6 of the specification has been changed to "Pa." Applicant submits that the foregoing amendment overcomes the objection to the specification.

Indefiniteness -- 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2d para.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Office Action states that the phrase "said lead containing lead oxide" in claim 1, lines 7-8 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The phrase, "lead containing lead oxide" has been removed from claim 1, thereby rendering this ground of rejection moot.

The Office Action states that the phrase “the particles of lead” in claim 1, line 16 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The term “the particles of lead” has been removed from claim 1, thereby rendering this ground of rejection moot.

The Office Action states that the phrase “said resultant, still reacting mixture” in claim 1, line 17 and lines 20-21 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The term “resultant, still-reacting mixture” that has been added to the 4th clause of claim 1 provides antecedent basis for this term. Applicant thus respectfully requests withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

The Office Action states that the phrase “said outlet section (6)” in claim 1, lines 30 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The term “an outlet section” in clause 6 of claim 1 now provides antecedent support for the use of that term in the 7th clause of claim 1.

The Office Action states that the phrase “said introduced first and second mixture of feedstock material” in claim 1, lines 32-33 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The term “said introduced first and second mixture of feedstock material” has been replaced with the terms “first fluid stream” and “second fluid stream,” which introduced in the second and third clauses of claim 1. Applicant thus respectfully requests withdrawal of this ground of rejection.

The Office Action states that each occurrence of “whereby” is awkward and confusing and should be replaced with --wherein--. Applicant has replaced each instance of whereby with wherein.

The Office Action states that the phrase “the reactor” in claim 2 lacks proper antecedent basis in the claim. The term “the reactor” has been replaced with “loopreactor,” which is introduced in the first clause of claim 1.

The Office Action states that the phrase “the mixture of said feedstock material and said first gaseous fluid” in claims 6 and 7 lack proper antecedent basis in the claim. The current amendment replaces this terminology with “the first fluid stream” and “the second fluid stream” and avoids the lack of antecedent basis issues raised with respect to claims 6 and 7 in the Office Action.

The Office Action states that the phrase “the volume ratio of said mixture of said feedstock material and said first gaseous fluid” in claims 8 and 10 lacks proper antecedent basis

in the claim. This terminology has been replaced in favor of “the first fluid mixture” and “the second fluid mixture” which have antecedent basis in claim 1.

The Office Action states that “0,1” is indefinite and confusing in claim 10. The term “0,1” has been replaced according to the suggestion at page 4 of the Office Action.

The Office Action states that claim 11 is ungrammatical. The article “said” has been introduced before “second” according to the suggestion of the Office Action.

The Office Action states that “feedstock material within the reactor” lacks antecedent basis in claim 12. The term “feedstock material” has been replaced with “solid feedstock material,” which is introduced in the second clause of claim 1. Also, the term “reactor” has been replaced with “loopreactor.”

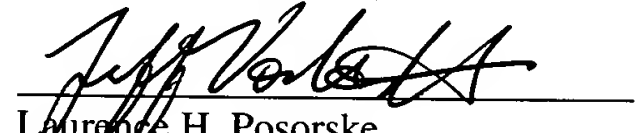
The Office Action states that the terms “the reactor” and “solid feedstock material” lack antecedent basis in claim 13. The term “reactor” has been replaced with “loopreactor.” The term “solid feedstock material” is now introduced in the second clause of claim 1.

Applicant submits that the foregoing addresses all issues with respect to 35 U.S.C. § 112, second set forth in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant submits that this response addresses all of the issues raised in the Office Action and places the pending claims in condition for allowance. Should any issues remain to be discussed in this application, the undersigned may be reached by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

By:


Laurence H. Posorske
Registration No. 34,698

Jeff B. Vockrodt
Registration No. 54,833

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Hunton & Williams LLP
Intellectual Property Department
1900 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20006-1109
(202) 955-1500 (telephone)
(202) 778-2201 (facsimile)

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